

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 14 (canceled)

15(previously presented) An automatic scan test enable signal assertion method comprising the steps of:

- a) transitioning logical values of a trigger signal;
- b) asserting a scan test enable signal based upon logical values in said trigger signal;
- c) suspending transitions in a stage progression signal;
- d) deasserting said scan test enable signal if a transition occurs in said stage progression signal; and
- e) utilizing a normal functional pin to communicate said trigger signal.

16(original) The automatic scan test enable signal assertion method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of waiting for indications from a stage progression signal before processing information in a following stage.

17(original) The automatic scan test enable signal assertion method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of transmitting a logical value of said trigger signal through stages determined by said stage progression signal.

18(original) The automatic scan test enable signal assertion method of Claim 17 in which said scan test enable signal is asserted based upon a logical value of said trigger signal in a first stage and a logical value of said trigger signal in a second stage.

19(original) The automatic scan test enable signal assertion method of Claim 17 in which said scan test enable signal is asserted if said trigger signal is at logical 1 value during a first stage and the trigger signal is at a logical 0 value during a second stage and third stage.

20(original) The automatic scan test enable signal assertion method of Claim 15 in which said trigger signal is a reset signal and said stage progression signal is a clock signal.

21(original) The automatic scan test enable signal assertion method of Claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

- capturing logical values of said trigger signal in a first stage and a second stage;
- initiating a said scan test enable indication signal based upon said captured logical values; and
- forwarding a scan test enable signal in response to a stage progression signal.